

missioner in whose district the same is stranded, or his duly authorized agent, to proceed at once to such wreck, and upon the permission of the master of such wrecked ship, or other stranded vessel, the said commissioner or agent shall immediately proceed to summon a sufficient number of men who, under the direction of the commissioner acting, shall at once proceed to save the cargo and material of such wrecked vessel. After any such goods or stranded property shall have been saved, the said goods shall be immediately placed under guard, one guard to be selected by the commissioner or owner representing the same, and one other guard to be selected by the salvors saving the same. And such goods or stranded property shall be kept under strict guard until sold or the salvors are paid as provided in this chapter.

1899, c. 79, s. 14; 1901, c. 178.

**5443. Salvage paid; property remains in custody until paid.**

Each and every person who assists in saving such cargo or material shall, within thirty days after saving the same, be paid a reasonable reward by the owner or master of such vessel, or by the merchant whose vessel or goods shall be saved. In default of payment of a reasonable compensation, as provided in the preceding section, the goods or property so saved shall remain in the joint custody of the commissioner and salvors until all reasonable charges be paid, or security given for that purpose to the satisfaction of the parties saving such goods or other property.

1899, c. 79, ss. 14, 15.

**5444. How salvage fixed on disagreement.** If the parties shall disagree touching the amount of reward or salvage to be paid to the persons employed, the commander, owner or commissioner who are representing the same shall choose one disinterested person, and also the salvors shall nominate one other, who shall adjust and ascertain the same; and if the persons thus chosen can not agree, they shall choose one other indifferent person as umpire to decide between them: Provided, the amount to be paid such salvors shall be determined and agreed upon before sale is made of such goods.

1899, c. 79, s. 16.

**5445. When and how wrecked property sold for salvage.** If the owner of the vessel, or the property which has been saved, shall fail for thirty days after the salvage has been ascertained either by agreement or as provided for in the preceding section to pay such salvage, it shall be the duty of the commissioner of wrecks in charge of such property to sell at public outcry such stranded or wrecked vessel or other property; first advertising the same as for sales of personal property under execution. Each commissioner shall pro-